

December 8, 2015

Kim Meltzer, CMC/CMMC

MEMBER OF:

Michigan Association of Clerks

Macomb County Clerks
Association

Kimberly Irvine, CMC/CMMC
DEPUTY CLERK

Good morning honorable members of the Election Committee:

My name is Kim Meltzer and I am the Clerk for Clinton Township of Macomb County. I am also a former State House Representative that served on Ethics and Elections during my second term as State Representative.

I want to quell the opposition of SB13 by offering a different perspective as clerk of the largest township in the State of Michigan. Clinton Township has a diverse population with more than 100,000 people.

When a controversial bill such as SB13 is introduced and taken up in committee it naturally brings out polarizing political views. That is why I was really disappointed when I learned that the leadership of the present MAMC-Michigan Association of Municipal Clerks, came out with an opposing point of view on the bill. As clerks we are to be non-political so as to make sure we guarantee one of the most important tenants of clerking: the execution of fair, honest and accurate elections. By casting support or opposition on SB13 the MAMC threw all Michigan clerks into the political arena.

There is a nonpartisan benefit that SB13 provides to the good people of Michigan when they vote and that is eliminating Straight Ticket voting will result in elections that prioritize the person they are voting for and not the political party. I have heard much opposition about voters being used by the political parties. SB13 would eliminate the parties from taking advantage of voters and that is good for Michigan.

Sincerely,

Kim Meltzer Township Clerk

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CIVIC CENTER

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